



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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2009 Senate Bill 243

Remarks of Keith Warnke

Chair Holperin and committee members:

The department supports Senate Bill 243 which would remove the three day waiting period before an archery deer hunting license becomes effective if it is purchased during the season.

The original intent of the delayed effective date was to discourage people from going deer hunting but not purchasing a license unless they killed a deer. The law may also have discouraged a person from purchasing a license for somebody else after killing a deer that the shooter did not have a tag for.

This law has outlived its usefulness. The requirement that people wear a brightly colored back tag while hunting reduces the incidence of hunting without a license. Abundant harvest tags in most units make it possible to harvest multiple deer legally. If a conservation warden suspects that something is unusual they can find out almost instantly through the automated licensing system when a license was purchased.

The three day waiting period is an obstacle for young hunters who celebrate their 12th birthday during the archery season. The waiting period is an inconvenience for anyone who didn't purchase their license prior to the season and then realizes they have the coming weekend open with time to go hunting.

Again, the department supports Senate Bill 243. Thank you for taking the time to work on this.